

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 11-16, and 18-20 are presented for further examination. Claims 4, 7, 10, 14, 17, 21, and 22 have been cancelled. Claims 1, 5, 8, 11-13, 15, and 18 have been amended.

In the final Office Action mailed August 14, 2003, the Examiner rejected claims 7-8, 10, and 17 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. Claims 7, 10, and 17 have been cancelled. Claim 8 has been amended to recite the stackable module of claim 1 wherein the circuit components "further comprise" a device that acts on the transport stream data and the transport stream control signals. There is no conflict with the transport stream generating device, because this additional device recited in claim 8 is configured to *act on* instead of generate the transport stream data and transport stream control signals.

Claims 1-3, 6-8, and 21-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,477,593 ("Khosrowpour et al."). Claims 4-5 were found to be allowable if rewritten into independent form, and claims 19-20 were allowed.

Applicants respectfully request that the claims as amended be further examined. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 4. Thus, claim 1 is now claim 4 rewritten into independent form to include the limitations of the independent claim. Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1, as well as dependent claims 2, 3, 5, 6, 8, and 9 are now in condition for allowance.

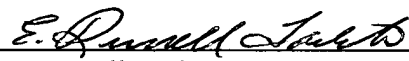
Independent claims 11, 12, and 18 have been amended to include the limitation of allowable claim 4, *i.e.*, that the support plate comprises at least one through-hole adapted to receive a support pillar. Applicant submits that claims 11, 12, 18, and all claims depending from claim 12 are now in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing, applicant submits all of the claims in this application are now in condition for allowance. In the event the Examiner finds minor informalities that can be resolved by telephone conference, the Examiner is urged to contact applicant's undersigned representative by telephone at (206) 622-4900. Consequently, early and favorable action allowing these claims and passing this case to issuance is respectfully solicited.

Application No. 10/085,121
Reply to Office Action dated August 14, 2003

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,
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